



Faculty of Resource Science and Technology

**EFFECT OF DIFFERENT SHADING ON THE GROWTH
PERFORMANCE OF ROSELLE (*Hibiscus sabdariffa* L.)
SEEDLINGS**

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**Effect of Different Shading on the Growth Performance of Roselle (*Hibiscus sabdariffa*
L.) Seedlings.**

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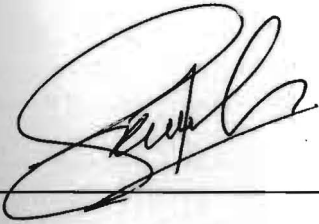

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DECLARATION

No portion of the work referred to this report has been submitted in support of an application for another degree of qualification of this or any other university or institution of higher learning.



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Table of contents

Title	Pages
TITLE PAGE	i
APPROVAL SHEET	ii
DECLARATION	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS	v
LIST OF APPENDICES	vii
LIST OF FIGURES	ix
LIST OF PLATES	x
LIST OF TABLES	xi
ABSTRACT/ABSTRAK	xiii
1.0 INTRODUCTION	1
2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW	4
2.1 Scientific Classification of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> Linn.	4
2.2 Botanical Description of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> Linn.	5
2.3 Growth of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> Linn.	6
2.4 Seed germination.....	9
2.5 Potting media.....	9
2.6 Shading on <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> Linn.....	10
2.7 Economic Importance of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> Linn.	11
3.0 MATERIALS AND METHODS	13
3.1 Materials.....	13
3.2 Study Sites	13
3.3 Methods.....	13
3.3.1 Potting	13
3.3.2 Growth Performance.....	15
3.3.3 Biomass Determination.....	15
3.3.4 Experimental Design.....	16

4.0 RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS..... 17

 4.1 Growth Performance..... 17

 4.1.1 Stem Height..... 17

 4.1.2 Stem Diameter 19

 4.1.3 Leaf Number 20

 4.2 Biomass..... 24

 4.2.1 Root Weight..... 25

 4.2.2 Shoot Weight 26

 4.2.3 Root/Shoot Ratio..... 27

5.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS..... 30

REFERENCES..... 31

APPENDICES..... i-xxxi

List of appendices		Pages
Appendix 1	Measurement of parameters under 0% shade on Week 2	i
Appendix 2	Measurement of parameters under 0% shade on Week 4	ii
Appendix 3	Measurement of parameters under 0% shade on Week 6	iii
Appendix 4	Measurement of parameters under 0% shade on Week 8	iv
Appendix 5	Measurement of parameters under 0% shade on Week 10	v
Appendix 6	Measurement of parameters under 50% shade on Week 2	vi
Appendix 7	Measurement of parameters under 50% shade on Week 4	vii
Appendix 8	Measurement of parameters under 50% shade on Week 6	viii
Appendix 9	Measurement of parameters under 50% shade on Week 8	ix
Appendix 10	Measurement of parameters under 50% shade on Week 10	x
Appendix 11	Measurement of parameters under 75% shade on Week 2	xi
Appendix 12	Measurement of parameters under 75% shade on Week 4	xii
Appendix 13	Measurement of parameters under 75% shade on Week 6	xiii
Appendix 14	Measurement of parameters under 75% shade on Week 8	xiv
Appendix 15	Measurement of parameters under 75% shade on Week 10	xv
Appendix 16	Biomass Analysis (1) of plants under a) 0%, b) 50 % and c) 75% shade (Week12)	xvi
Appendix 17	Biomass Analysis (2) of plants under a) 0%, b) 50 % and c) 75% shade (Week16)	xvi
Appendix 18	Biomass Analysis (3) of plants under a) 0%, b) 50 % and c) 75% shade (Week20)	xvii
Appendix 19	Biomass Analysis (4) of plants under a) 0%, b) 50 % and c) 75% shade (Week24)	xviii
Appendix 20	Analysis of variance for stem height of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> seedlings after 10 weeks.	xix

Appendix 21	Analysis of variance for stem diameter of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> seedlings after 10 weeks.	xxi
Appendix 22	Analysis of variance for number of leaves of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> seedlings after 10 weeks.	xxiii
Appendix 23	Analysis of variance for dry weight of root of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> seedlings of biomass production.	xxv
Appendix 24	Analysis of variance for dry weight of shoot of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> seedlings of biomass production.	xxvi
Appendix 25	Analysis of variance for root+shoot ratio of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> seedlings of biomass production.	xxvii
Appendix 26	Early growth of seed germination of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> at 2 week	xxviii
Appendix 27	Sarlon net for shading of the Roselle plant (50% shade)	xxviii
Appendix 28	Stem caliper measurement	xxix
Appendix 29	Stem height measurement	xxix
Appendix 30	The growth performance of Roselle under 0% shade at week 4	xxix
Appendix 31	Growth performance of Roselle under 50% shade at Week 4	xxx
Appendix 32	Growth performance of Roselle under 75% shade at Week 4	xxx
Appendix 33	Growth performance of Roselle at Week 2	xxxi
Appendix 34	Growth performance of Roselle at Week 4	xxxi
Appendix 35	Individual plant before oven-dry for biomass analysis	xxxi
Appendix 36	Individual plant after oven-dry for biomass analysis	xxxi

List of figures	Pages
Figure 1 Evaluation of mean on stem height of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> L. seedlings under different shade for 10 weeks (measured once in 2 weeks)	18
Figure 2 Evaluation of mean on stem diameter of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> L. seedlings under different shade for 10 weeks (measured once in 2 weeks)	20
Figure 3 Evaluation of mean on leaves number of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> L. seedlings under different shade for 10 weeks (measured once in 2 weeks)	21
Figure 4 Mean of root dry weight for each shade at 4 weeks interval	25
Figure 5 Mean of shoot dry weight for each shade at 4 weeks interval	27
Figure 6 Mean of root+shoot ratio for each shade at 4 weeks interval	28

List of plates		Pages
Plate 1	Leaves and stem part of Roselle	6
Plate 2	Roselle flower	6
Plate 3	Roselle immature fruit	6
Plate 4	Roselle ripen fruit	6

List of tables		Pages
Table 1	The mean of stem height after 10 weeks of seed germination	18
Table 2	The mean of stem diameter after 10 weeks of seed germination	19
Table 3	The mean of leaves number after 10 weeks of seed germination	21
Table 4	The mean of biomass analysis (Root Dry Weight) data was taken at 4 weeks interval	25
Table 5	The mean of biomass analysis (Root Dry Weight) data was taken at 4 weeks Interval	26
Table 6	The mean of biomass analysis (Root Dry Weight) data was taken at 4 weeks interval	28

Table of contents

Title	Pages
TITLE PAGE	i
APPROVAL SHEET	ii
DECLARATION	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS	v
LIST OF APPENDICES	vii
LIST OF FIGURES	ix
LIST OF PLATES	x
LIST OF TABLES	xi
ABSTRACT/ABSTRAK	xiii
1.0 INTRODUCTION	1
2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW	4
2.1 Scientific Classification of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> Linn.	4
2.2 Botanical Description of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> Linn.	5
2.3 Growth of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> Linn.	6
2.4 Seed germination.....	9
2.5 Potting media.....	9
2.6 Shading on <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> Linn.....	10
2.7 Economic Importance of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> Linn.	11
3.0 MATERIALS AND METHODS	13
3.1 Materials.....	13
3.2 Study Sites	13
3.3 Methods.....	13
3.3.1 Potting	13
3.3.2 Growth Performance.....	15
3.3.3 Biomass Determination.....	15
3.3.4 Experimental Design.....	16

4.0 RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS.....	17
4.1 Growth Performance.....	17
4.1.1 Stem Height.....	17
4.1.2 Stem Diameter	19
4.1.3 Leaf Number	20
4.2 Biomass.....	24
4.2.1 Root Weight.....	25
4.2.2 Shoot Weight	26
4.2.3 Root/Shoot Ratio.....	27
5.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	30
REFERENCES.....	31
APPENDICES.....	i-xxxix

List of appendices		Pages
Appendix 1	Measurement of parameters under 0% shade on Week 2	i
Appendix 2	Measurement of parameters under 0% shade on Week 4	ii
Appendix 3	Measurement of parameters under 0% shade on Week 6	iii
Appendix 4	Measurement of parameters under 0% shade on Week 8	iv
Appendix 5	Measurement of parameters under 0% shade on Week 10	v
Appendix 6	Measurement of parameters under 50% shade on Week 2	vi
Appendix 7	Measurement of parameters under 50% shade on Week 4	vii
Appendix 8	Measurement of parameters under 50% shade on Week 6	viii
Appendix 9	Measurement of parameters under 50% shade on Week 8	ix
Appendix 10	Measurement of parameters under 50% shade on Week 10	x
Appendix 11	Measurement of parameters under 75% shade on Week 2	xi
Appendix 12	Measurement of parameters under 75% shade on Week 4	xii
Appendix 13	Measurement of parameters under 75% shade on Week 6	xiii
Appendix 14	Measurement of parameters under 75% shade on Week 8	xiv
Appendix 15	Measurement of parameters under 75% shade on Week 10	xv
Appendix 16	Biomass Analysis (1) of plants under a) 0%, b) 50 % and c) 75% shade (Week12)	xvi
Appendix 17	Biomass Analysis (2) of plants under a) 0%, b) 50 % and c) 75% shade (Week16)	xvi
Appendix 18	Biomass Analysis (3) of plants under a) 0%, b) 50 % and c) 75% shade (Week20)	xvii
Appendix 19	Biomass Analysis (4) of plants under a) 0%, b) 50 % and c) 75% shade (Week24)	xviii
Appendix 20	Analysis of variance for stem height of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> seedlings after 10 weeks.	xix

Appendix 21	Analysis of variance for stem diameter of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> seedlings after 10 weeks.	xxi
Appendix 22	Analysis of variance for number of leaves of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> seedlings after 10 weeks.	xxiii
Appendix 23	Analysis of variance for dry weight of root of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> seedlings of biomass production.	xxv
Appendix 24	Analysis of variance for dry weight of shoot of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> seedlings of biomass production.	xxvi
Appendix 25	Analysis of variance for root+shoot ratio of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> seedlings of biomass production.	xxvii
Appendix 26	Early growth of seed germination of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> at 2 week	xxviii
Appendix 27	Sarlon net for shading of the Roselle plant (50% shade)	xxviii
Appendix 28	Stem caliper measurement	xxix
Appendix 29	Stem height measurement	xxix
Appendix 30	The growth performance of Roselle under 0% shade at week 4	xxix
Appendix 31	Growth performance of Roselle under 50% shade at Week 4	xxx
Appendix 32	Growth performance of Roselle under 75% shade at Week 4	xxx
Appendix 33	Growth performance of Roselle at Week 2	xxxi
Appendix 34	Growth performance of Roselle at Week 4	xxxi
Appendix 35	Individual plant before oven-dry for biomass analysis	xxxi
Appendix 36	Individual plant after oven-dry for biomass analysis	xxxi

List of figures		Pages
Figure 1	Evaluation of mean on stem height of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> L. seedlings under different shade for 10 weeks (measured once in 2 weeks)	18
Figure 2	Evaluation of mean on stem diameter of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> L. seedlings under different shade for 10 weeks (measured once in 2 weeks)	20
Figure 3	Evaluation of mean on leaves number of <i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> L. seedlings under different shade for 10 weeks (measured once in 2 weeks)	21
Figure 4	Mean of root dry weight for each shade at 4 weeks interval	25
Figure 5	Mean of shoot dry weight for each shade at 4 weeks interval	27
Figure 6	Mean of root+shoot ratio for each shade at 4 weeks interval	28

List of plates		Pages
Plate 1	Leaves and stem part of Roselle	6
Plate 2	Roselle flower	6
Plate 3	Roselle immature fruit	6
Plate 4	Roselle ripen fruit	6

List of tables		Pages
Table 1	The mean of stem height after 10 weeks of seed germination	18
Table 2	The mean of stem diameter after 10 weeks of seed germination	19
Table 3	The mean of leaves number after 10 weeks of seed germination	21
Table 4	The mean of biomass analysis (Root Dry Weight) data was taken at 4 weeks interval	25
Table 5	The mean of biomass analysis (Root Dry Weight) data was taken at 4 weeks Interval	26
Table 6	The mean of biomass analysis (Root Dry Weight) data was taken at 4 weeks interval	28

CHAPTER 1.0

INTRODUCTION

Roselle (*Hibiscus sabdariffa*. Linn.) is commonly called Jamaica sorrel, Indian sorrel or red sorrel, is a dicotyledonous and autogamous plant cultivated in tropical and subtropical regions for its fleshy calyces, seeds, leaves and stems. Roselle is probably a native of West Africa and is now widely cultivated throughout the tropics and subtropics e.g. Sudan, China, Thailand, Egypt, Mexico and the West India (El-saidy *et al.*, 1992). According to Cobley (1968), the crop is cultivated throughout the India subcontinents, part of Asia, America, Australia and throughout Africa. However, the crop is most suited to tropical climates such as Malaysia.

Roselle is basically used for its fibers and fruits, then the latter being utilized for making jelly and preserves. In India, calyces are cultivated in producing beverages, jams sauces and food preserves. Roselle extract prepared from the dried calyces are rich in anthocyanins and could be used as a good source for producing a brilliant red colorant for many foods (Clydesdale *et al.*, 1979; Pouget *et al.*, 1990). The oil extracted from Roselle seed can be a substitute for castor oil while the residue is used in a fermented form as soap or cake. The leaves are used for soup and as a pot herb (Adigun, 2003).

Roselle also has same chemical and physical properties as jute in term of its softness and its color. According to Rao (1996), Roselle is grown in some regions for fiber and pulp obtained from its stems. The fibre also may be used as a substitute for jute in making burlap. Apart from that, Campese (1937) stated that well-prepared Roselle fiber can be woven into bed clothing, table linen and other articles for which cotton is used. According to him, 'navy and merchant

marine' are prefer to use this kind of fiber because they deteriorated little when wet and did not rot if left for a long time in salt or fresh water. Fishing nets made from this fiber were also extremely resistant and broke only under great strain. This is because Roselle fiber is twice as strong as jute and very resistant to sea water and can be spun without difficulty (Ettling, 1926). Campese also stated that fiber from young plants is suitable for the manufacture of paper.

Moreover, the calyx is used to produce drinks or tea due to high contents of anthocyanins (Mizukami *et al.*, 1988; 1989; Hong & Wrostand, 1990), amino acids and mineral salts (Cissé *et al.*, 2009). The extract prepared from edible calyces is an effective cure for intestinal and urinary infections. Its water extract is characterized by a brilliant red colorant and a good acid taste. There are several countries using Roselle as a natural medicine for treating hypertension (Faraji & Tarkhani, 1999), pyrexia and liver disorders (Chen *et al.*, 2003), microorganism growth limitation (Obboh & Elusiyam, 2004), as well as a diuretic, digestive and sedative (Akhindahunsi & Olaleye, 2003).

In folk medicine, it is also used to treat inflammatory disease (Dafallah & Al-Mustafa, 1996) and cancer (Chewonarin *et al.*, 1999). Anthocyanins, flavonols, protocatechuic acid, along with others, have been identified as contributors to the observation of medicinal effect of *H. sabdariffa* (Seca *et al.*, 2000). Consequently, the calyces have received industrial attention internationally. Moreover, Roselle is one of the most popular folk medicinal plants due to its colored and edible calyces which are also used in pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries. In addition, the seeds are subjected to a solid-state fermentation process which produces a meat substitute condiment known as *dawadawa-botso* in Nigeria, *bi-kalga* in Central Burkina and

datou in Mali. In rural populations, this condiment is mostly used in sauces accompanying cereals and pastas.

Roselle productions are popular because of the high potential due to various traditional and local agronomic practices. However, local farmers who have never experienced the effect of these agronomic practices on the productivity of Roselle are undertaking most of these practices. Good agronomic practices such as spacing, time of sowing and fertilizer application have been affiliated to high and economic yield potentials. However, the effects of these agronomic practices need to be monitored in order to identify the optimum range for high productivity. Studies on Roselle conducted in Malaysia are very scarce. Only a few studies have been done in terms of cultivation and commercial production. It is also very crucial to conduct the study of basic growth performance of *H. sabdariffa* Linn. Therefore the data obtained will be useful to cultivate these edible calyces for commercial purposes.

Since kenaf seed is more expensive to be cultivated for pulp, Roselle is regarded as a new crop with high potential for intensive cropping system owing to its multifunctional attributes.

Hence, the objectives of this study are as follows:

- (i) To document the growth performance of *H. sabdariffa* under 0%, 50% and 75% shade.
- (ii) To determine the biomass production of the *H. sabdariffa* under different shading.

CHAPTER 2.0

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Scientific Classification of *Hibiscus sabdariffa* Linn.

Kingdom:	Plantae
Order:	Malvales
Family:	Malvaceae
Genus:	<i>Hibiscus</i>
Species:	<i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> L.

Hibiscus sabdariffa or Roselle has been variously called 'sorrel', red sorrel', East Indian sorrel plant' and 'thorny mallow'. In Malaysia it called as *Asam susur*. In Australia, it is known as the *Rosella* fruit. In India, it is popularly known as *Gongura* in Hindi and *Pulicha Keerai* in Tamil (Kuriyan *et al.*, 2010). *Chin baung* is called in Burma, while *Krajeab* commonly known for Roselle in Thailand, Bissapin Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Congo and France. Yoruba's in Nigeria call the white variety *Isapa*, *Zoborodo* in Northern Nigeria, *Chaye-Torosh* in Iran, *Karkade* in Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Sudan. Other names are *Omutete* in Namibia, *Sorrel* in the Caribbean and in America Latin. *Flor de Jamaica* is called in Mexico, *Saril* in Panama, *Rosella* in Indonesia and *Luoshen Hua* in China. In Zambia the plant is called *Lumanda* in Gbemba, *Katolo* in Kikaonde and, *Wusi* in Chilunda. Most of the statements and descriptions concerning Roselle refer to a plant with red stems and calyces, the latter being used for culinary purposes.

2.2 Botanical Description of *Hibiscus sabdariffa* Linn.

Roselle (*Hibiscus sabdariffa* var. *sabdariffa*) is a tropical plant which belongs to the family Malvaceae. Roselle is an annual erect, bushy, herbaceous sub shrub, with smooth or slightly hairy, cylindrical, typically red stems. It can grow to 50-300 cm in height with a green or red colored stalk, and a red or pale yellow calyx that is edible (Brouk, 1975; Morton, 1987). Roselle is a tetraploid species with $2n = 4x = 72$ (Akpan, 2000).

The botany description of the Roselle that stated by Asolkar *et al.*, (1992), the leaves are 5-15 cm long and wide, suborbicular to elliptic in outline, base cuneate, margins serrate, lower leaves are ovate and undivided whereas the upper leaves palmately 3- to 5- lobed and glandular beneath (Plate 1). The flowers (Plate 4), borne singly in the leaf axils are up to 12.5 cm wide, solitary and axillaries. The pedicels are very short and jointed near the base. It is purple in color. The calyx is up to 3 cm long, red to dark purple, fleshy, lobes 9-10, lanceolate, 3-nerved and connate at base. The fruits are up to 2.5 cm in length and are surrounded by enlarged fleshy calyces containing 22-34 seeds per capsule (Plate 2 and Plate 3). The seed is dark brown in color, 4-6 cm long and about 0.025g in weight grows up to 2 m and leaves are varying in shape and size. It takes about six month to mature.